

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

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R 150327Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR

SUBJECT:SAN FRANCISCO-LENINGRAD CULTURAL EXCHANGE

1. SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS AND CULTURAL LEADER PHILLIP BOONE WILL BE MEETING WITH DEPT (CU) END OF FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS PROPOSED EXCHANGE PROGRAM BETWEEN SAN FRANCISCO AND LENINGRAD. ADDRESSEE POSTS WILL RECALL THAT PROPOSED PROGRAM WAS SUBJECT OF LUNCHEON DISCUSSION AT CONGEN LENINGRAD IN SUMMER 1973 WHEN BOONE ACCOMPANIED SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY TO USSR. PROPOSAL SUBJECT OF EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN MAYOR ALIOTO AND DEPT. BOONE HAS INFORMED DEPT THAT SAN FRANCISCO STILL VERY INTERESTED IN PROCEEDING WITH PROPOSED EXCHANGE AND THAT PROGRAM HAS ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF SOVIET CONGEN ZINCHUK.

2. SOVCULTCOUNSELOR SAKOVICH, AT DEPT REQUEST, CALLED ZINCHUK TO ASCERTAIN NATURE OF SOVIET INTERESTS. ZINCHUK REPORTEDLY IS THINKING OF EXCHANGES OF SMALL PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS, SMALL EXHIBITS, THEATER DIRECTORS, ORCHESTRA CONDUCTORS AND TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES (LONGSHOREMEN SPECIFIC-
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TORS AND TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES (LONGSHOREMEN SPECIFIC-

ICALLY MENTIONED). EXCHANGES WOULD BE DIRECTLY BETWEEN THE TWO CITIES AND OUTSIDE OF OFFICIAL AGREEMENT. (DEPT OFFICER INFORMED SAKOVICH THAT TRADE UNION EXCHANGES WERE OUT OF THE QUESTION, AND SAKOVICH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD.)

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND WHICH EMBASSY OR CONGEN MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE RE SOVIET INTERESTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSED EXCHANGES. REQUEST REPLY BY FEB 26. INGERSOLL

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